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WAR DEPARTMENT
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF
INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

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OSD Declassification/Release Instructions on File

20 May 1947

MID 350.055

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Interrogation of Returning Diplomatic and Attaché Personnel.

1. Reference is made to memorandum from Director of Central Intelligence, dated 6 May 1947, subject: "Interrogation of Returning Attachés."

2. The suggestion of Mr. Eddy in regard to the interview of returning ambassadors and ministers has been studied in the Intelligence Division. It is desired to point out that while the suggestion will result in economy of time to the chiefs of missions, it will not completely satisfy the needs of the War Department for the reasons outlined below.

3. Conferences in The Pentagon with returning ambassadors and ministers are held under the auspices of the Intelligence Division; however, in addition to Intelligence Division representation, these conferences are attended by other War Department personnel including the Deputy Chief of Staff, Director of Plans and Operations Division, Director of Service, Supply and Procurement Division, Chief of Information, representatives from Joint Intelligence Staff, Army Ground Forces, Army Air Forces and others. It is evident, therefore, that the questions posed to the lecturers are not solely of an intelligence nature but cover the interests of the War Department.

4. It is felt that the time consumed by the Deputy Chief of Staff and the War Department Divisional Directors in going to and from Central Intelligence Group for the proposed meetings would prohibit their attendance at many meetings which would be of value to them. The conferences as conducted in the Intelligence Division at present require these officers to spend only a few minutes of their time in transit. Further, they are always readily available for immediate recall to their offices if needed.

5. The meetings held in the Intelligence Division are attended by approximately 90 individuals all of whom have a vital interest in the interviewee. If the War Department (less Army Air Forces) is limited to an attendance of 10 individuals at the proposed meetings, all divisions would have to scale down their attendance to a point

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where the information imparted by the speaker will reach only a small portion of the interested agencies.

6. It is suggested that the joint interview proposed by Mr. Eddy be put into effect with the provision that Intelligence Division, War Department General Staff, be permitted to conduct interviews as at present in those cases where the situation warrants.

7. The Intelligence Division concurs in the provisions of paragraph 2 of reference memorandum in regard to the interrogation of returning military, air and naval attaches. It is requested that Mr. Knowles work out the details pertaining to military and air attaches with Major H. B. Speed, Jr., Intelligence Division, War Department General Staff.

/s/ Walter E. Todd
WALTER E. TODD
Brigadier General, GSC
Acting Director of Intelligence

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